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THE INDIANAPOLIS JOURNAL
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Considering the state of our foreign relations it is to be hoped the President brought his gun back with him to Washington.

For an American vessel the Alliance has a very foreign-sounding name. If it were the Uncle Sam or Old Glory the people would get hot much faster.

As the Spanish minister at Washington seems to be a very fussy and self-important person it is probably just as well that the government ignored him in its dealing with Spain.

A contemporary disposed of Washington Feb. 22 with a paragraph, but devotes nine columns to St. Patrick, which would indicate that the latter was in that proportion the more important personage.

A suite consisting of 130 persons called to leave no doubt of Col. Li Hung Chang's full power to negotiate peace. If China's armies had been organized on the same scale the war might have ended differently.

Mr. Van Arsdale, who was chairman of the House salary committee, exposes the absurdity of the Governor's petulant protest against the salary law in a communication in this issue. It shows that the protest was peanut politics.

Judge Grubbs, of Martinsville, in setting aside a verdict on the ground that the prosecution had in its arguments gone outside the evidence has rebuked a very prevalent evil in the conduct of criminal cases. Not long ago a lawyer defending a criminal appealed to jurors to stand by the son of a man who had been a war comrade.

The warmest sympathy of Americans will go out towards the Cuban revolutionists. Spanish rule in Cuba is an anachronism, a relic of barbarism and an insult to the spirit of the age. Cuba should be free and independent, and there is strong reason to believe that the beginning of the twentieth century will find her not only that, but a republic.

It has been suggested that American boot and shoe manufacturers should take advantage of the present lockout, which has practically closed all the boot-making shops in England, to introduce American goods. Probably the attempt would not succeed, for while English-made boots and shoes are abominably ugly, the average Englishman would rather go barefoot than wear a handsome, well-fitting American shoe.

As long as the United States government is forced to admit its inability to afford protection to foreigners in the various States it can hardly expect much in the way of protection for American citizens in foreign countries. Foreign governments may recognize the constitutional limitations which prevail in this country as a sufficient reason for the inaction of the United States government in such matters, but they will also use it as a justification for their own.

One of the themes of St. Patrick's orator was home rule for Ireland. Such a change would be very dear to the Irish heart, and would be generally applauded throughout this country, but the realities of the situation compel the conclusion that such a consummation is not near at hand. England and Scotland are hostile to that policy, and the House of Lords obstructs the way. As for abolishing Lord's veto, it is idle to talk about it. After the British throne shall have become a thing of the past the House of Lords may follow. The House of Lords is the power behind the throne which has a much broader and deeper foundation.

New York woman suffragists are tickled most to death over the passage by one branch of the State Assembly of a resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution giving women the right to vote. They should have the experience of Massachusetts women before their eyes and not rejoice prematurely. As the Senate still has to pass upon the resolution its fate is uncertain. In Massachusetts the bad, deceitful legislators have a habit of setting up an equal suffrage bill in one house and knocking it down in the other. They play with the new woman's hopes, and it is not worth while to study up election laws until all the votes are counted.

A correspondent who seems to be laboring under the delusion that the pamphleteers of the silver mine properties always tell the truth, gravely asserts that it takes \$200,000,000 of gold every year to pay the interest on American securities owned abroad. If so intelligent a man had applied his reason and arithmetic to the matter he would have seen that the statement of the silver mine promoters is a gross exaggeration. At 1 per cent, which must be a high rate of interest for the American securities held abroad, \$200,000,000 would pay the interest on \$40,000,000,000.

000,000. When it is remembered that the bonded debt of the United States at its highest figure was \$2,351,330,000 the vast sum of foreign indebtedness on the basis of \$200,000,000 interest is preposterous. Four billions of dollars is one-half of the capitalization of our railroads and one-tenth of the wealth of the country in 1890. Those who know say that the amount of United States bonds held abroad is very small, and the amount of State and municipal bonds held abroad is still smaller. The volume of railroad bonds is not so large as is supposed. A statistician who has investigated the matter says that \$750,000,000 is a very liberal estimate for American securities held abroad, and that the annual interest paid thereon does not exceed \$37,500,000.

THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AND PROTECTION TO FOREIGNERS.

A Washington dispatch says that the officials of the State Department were somewhat surprised at the action of Baron Fava, the Italian ambassador, in communicating directly with the Governor of Colorado respecting the protection of Italians in that State. It was added with much solemnity that "this course was irregular, but it is not probable that any official notice will be taken of the matter." It is to be hoped not, for it would give the Italian ambassador an excellent opportunity to call attention to the inconsistency of the United States government on the question of protecting foreigners.

Four years ago when a trouble arose between Italy and the United States on account of the massacre of several Italian subjects by a mob in New Orleans the Italian minister, then, as now, Baron Fava, on the day of the massacre delivered a written formal protest to Secretary Blaine. The latter expressed his deep regret at the occurrence and telegraphed to the Governor of Louisiana urging that the violators of the law be brought to justice. In reply the Governor justified the deed. Two days later when the Italian minister called at the State Department to protest against the inaction of the local authorities, Mr. Blaine reminded him that the officers of the federal government had no constitutional power of interference with the administration of justice in any State. A long and spirited diplomatic correspondence followed, in which the Secretary of State firmly maintained the position that in a matter of this kind the federal government could not interfere with the States and could only urge the local authorities to execute the laws. Finally, upon instructions from his home government, the Italian minister left Washington, the United States minister left Rome, and for a time diplomatic relations between the two countries were suspended.

In the light of this experience it is not surprising that in the present instance, involving precisely the same question, Baron Fava should have communicated directly with the Governor of Colorado instead of filing his protest with the Secretary of State only to be assured, as he was four years ago, that the federal government could not interfere. It required a good deal of correspondence and some pretty plain talk on the part of Mr. Blaine to make Baron Fava understand this in 1891, but he seems to have learned and remembered it. He evidently thought he would save time and perhaps secure better results by communicating directly with the Governor of Colorado, and while his action may have been somewhat irregular, it was businesslike. Under the circumstances it would hardly be wise for the State Department to take official notice of Baron Fava's action.

VERY STUPID FALSEHOODS.

Just as the House at Washington dissolved the majority of a special committee to inquire into the causes of industrial depression put in its report. The abstract has been sent to the papers. It is even more insulting to the intelligence of the American farmer than was the general conduct of that Congress to the intelligence of the American people. The report has been concocted upon the assumption that farmers as a whole are hopelessly ignorant. Let us note a few of the stupidest money matters which the Republicans have concocted in their report.

"During the last thirty years the values of land and farm surroundings have depreciated steadily," is one statement. Let us turn to the census. The gross values of farm lands in 1850, 1860, 1870 and 1890 were as follows:

Year	Gross value, per head	Value
1850	\$3,272,000,000
1860	6,846,000,000
1870	10,127,000,000
1890	15,229,000,000

The censuses of the same years give the value of live stock on the farms of the United States as follows:

Year	Gross value, per head	Value
1850	\$544,000,000
1860	1,082,000,000
1870	1,419,000,000
1890	2,419,000,000

Let us next consider a statement intended to deceive. "The values of property owned by the American farmers," says this report, "have decreased in thirty years from nearly one-half of the total wealth in 1860 to less than one-fourth in 1890." In 1860 the total value of farms, farm buildings, machinery and live stock was \$7,980,498,165. In 1890, \$16,141,737,411. In 1860 the wealth of the country was \$16,119,616,063. In 1890, \$65,077,091,772. While the statement quoted is literally true, it is designed to mislead, since, as a matter of fact, the value of agricultural property in 1890 was within \$10,000,000 of being of equal value to all the property in the country in 1860. Besides, it is vastly to the advantage of agriculture that other industries have so multiplied as to afford the farmer tens of thousands to feed in cities and manufacturing towns where he had only thousands in 1860.

"Thirty per cent. of the farm property of the country is under mortgage," say the makers of the report. "Seventy-one per cent. of the farms owned by the occupants are free from incumbrance and the other 28.22 per cent are mortgaged to 35.5 per cent. of their value," says the census—a very different statement.

"Wheat was worth from \$1.55 to \$2.25 a bushel in 1872, according to Spofford's Almanac," say the falsifiers of the condition of agriculture. True, but why select the highest figure for years, and why give the currency price instead of the coin? Why not further state that there was an unusual foreign demand? The Chicago price for wheat in 1873 ranged from 89 cents to \$1.46. Reduce the paper money price to coin value, and you will find that the price of wheat in Chicago was higher from 1880 to 1884. From 1873 to the present time the wheat crop has doubled. With all the world pro-

ducing much more wheat now than in 1873 there is a crowded market, which means lower prices.

These are samples of the falsehoods which the majority of the committee of the House which passed the Wilson bill have put forth in the expectation that farmers will believe them.

MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT SILVER.

A correspondent asks, "Was not silver demonetized in India nearly a year ago?" No; silver is the legal money of India now, but there is so much of it in the country that the mints were closed to its further coinage. The mints were closed because silver bullion could be purchased for what was equivalent to 75 cents an ounce in England and taken to India and coined into an equivalent of about \$1.25.

The next question is: "Is not the Republican party committed to the free coinage of silver by its bimetallic plank in the national platform of 1892?" That plank reads as follows:

"The American people favor bimetallicism, and the Republican party demands the use of both gold and silver as standard money, with such restrictions and under such provisions as will secure the maintenance of the parity of values of the two metals, so that the purchasing power and the debt-paying power of the dollar, whether gold or silver, shall be equal at all times."

We cannot see how the Republican party by the government to secure an international conference to adopt such measures as will insure a parity of gold and silver for use as money throughout the world.

It will be seen that the Republican party is not committed to the free coinage of silver, but to a change "with such restrictions as will insure a parity of values of the two metals." The next question is quoted in full:

"Is it not a fact that in 1873, when the silver dollar was demonetized, the silver dollar in a dollar was worth \$1.25, and an ounce of silver was worth \$1.25? Up to that time the silver dollar was the unit of value in this country, but by this act gold was made the unit of value and silver became a token money, no longer legal tender except in debt to the Government?"

First, as a matter of fact, silver has never been demonetized. The standard silver dollar of any date is and always has been a legal tender. Its free coinage has been dropped. Second, the bullion in the silver dollar was worth more than the bullion in a gold dollar in 1873, and because values in the markets of the world were measured in gold then the bullion value of the silver dollar was about \$1.25. In 1893, when the production of gold was scarce, the silver dollar was worth 105.22 cents compared with the gold. In fact, in all the years from 1874 to 1893 the silver dollar was worth the most, and less than seven millions of them were coined. This is because the ratio in this country was made almost sixteen of silver to one of gold, while in all the rest of the world the ratio was fifteen and a half of silver to one of gold. Silver went to the country where it could be coined into the most money. Third, the silver dollar was not a unit of value until 1873 any more than the gold dollar. Fourth, silver token money as legal tender was limited to \$5 by the act of February, 1875, because at that time the value of the silver dollar was less than the gold dollar.

The relation of the silver dollar and quarters was reduced to that two for the gold dollar. The silver dollar was four quarters would weigh 384 grains of standard silver instead of 412½. This reduction was made because these subsidiary coins, on the basis of 412½ grains, were worth more to export than to circulate at their face value. Consequently, in order to have any halves, quarters and dimes for change the weight had to be reduced so that they would be worth more here than they would as bullion abroad.

The difficulty with this correspondent is that he assumes that silver was the chief element in the money of the country until the legislation of 1873 dropped the free coinage of silver. Such an assumption is a gross error. Silver was rarely seen in circulation because it was always worth more as bullion than as coin. The owner of silver bullion would have been a fool to have \$1.05 worth of silver bullion turned into \$1. For that reason it was not coined, but exported to countries where its coinage and bullion value were equal.

And it may be added that all the talk about the destruction of silver money in this country is simply idiotic. There are a thousand dollars of silver legal-tender money in this country now where there was not ten dollars in 1873. And it may be further added that if intelligent men would read the money and money matters which the Republicans have concocted in their report, they would find that silver money is sending out they would have more facts and less misinformation.

The remedy is the establishment of a ratio by international action by which the parity of gold and silver shall be established on some ratio which will make one metal as good money as the other. The indications abroad were never so favorable for the restoration of silver; Germany has already taken action in favor of a conference. A few days since the German Chancellor Hohenzollern, who speaks for the government, said regarding the proposed conference:

"Without prejudice to the emergency, one must confess that the differences in the value of gold and silver continue to react upon the monetary conditions of the world, the tendencies which led to the appointment of a silver commission, I am ready to consider in conjunction with the federal governments, whether we cannot enter upon a friendly interchange of opinion on the question of monetary measures with the other States which are chiefly interested in maintaining the value of silver."

The position taken by the Spanish government relative to Secretary Gresham's demand for an apology in the Alliance affair is in accordance with the Journal's suggestion that his action, if not hasty, was at least too peremptory. In reply to a question propounded in the Spanish Chamber of Deputies the Minister of State said that the government had ordered a full investigation of the affair to be made, and that its action would be shaped according to the facts. The dispatch says the Minister declined to make any further statement or to attempt any explanation of the incident until complete details and the reports of the Spanish officers of the gunboat which it is claimed fired on the Alliance are received. In other words, Spain will decline to apologize on a one-sided statement of the case. This is no more than reasonable, for while the statements of the captain and officers of the Alliance make a sufficiently strong prima facie case for demanding an explanation from Spain, she could hardly be expected to apologize until she has satisfied herself that an offense has been committed and ascertained its character and extent.

Doubtless there are many precedents for this position. For example, in 1891, when the Italian Secretary of State demanded that the United States pay a money indemnity on account of the killing of some Italian subjects in New Orleans, Mr. Blaine declined to be hurried in the matter or to give any pledges or assurances of reparation until he had investigated the case. He finally gave a written declaration acknowledging "the full obligation of the United States as regards full reparation for any violation of the treaty between the two countries which may have occurred," but he added that "no full examination of the case had been made and the law officers of the federal government had not arrived at any decision." In other words, the United States government insisted upon time to investigate and ascertain the real facts in the case. Evidently that is what Spain will do in the present case, and it is a reasonable position. Meanwhile, our government should take immediate steps to prove its case and enforce its demand if the facts justify it.

THE DEMAND UPON SPAIN.

All patriotic Americans, irrespective of party affiliations, will cordially sympathize with the demand made by the American government for an apology in the Alliance affair. It is compelled to do part of its duty as Secretary of State—New York Recorder (Rep.).

Secretary Gresham's letter to the Spanish authorities at Madrid has the true American ring, and it should be strongly backed by our government—Atlanta Constitution (Dem.).

Spain is an old offender in this matter of firing on the American flag. She deserves to be made an example of for the benefit of other hot-headed nations—Boston Herald (Rep.).

It is one of the most creditable documents that has emanated from the Department of State since the present administration took office. It is generally approved by the public—Brooklyn Times (Rep.).

The original of Little Billie, whom Du Maurier exploited in "Tribby," is supposed to be Frederick Walker, the young English artist, an account of whose life and works has recently been published. Thomas Jefferson, it is said, spoke like a professor lecturing in his class. He used few gestures, and always delivered his lectures in a moderate tone of voice, with little appearance of interest or enthusiasm.

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Meanwhile, our government should take immediate steps to prove its case and enforce its demand if the facts justify it.

But let us give Mr. Gresham his due. He has taken one step at least. He has asked an apology from Spain and a guarantee that our vessels shall not be interfered with in future. Now that he has defined a policy, let him stick to it—Philadelphia Inquirer (Rep.).

Regardless of politics, Americans will applaud the bold attitude of the Secretary. The difference what Spain may think of American operation of plots against Cuba, the flag must be protected in Cuba and everywhere else—Chicago Post (Dem.).

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Even a little haste and some feeling for the persons who are the cause of their being manifested in defense of the country's honor and dignity. To err in that direction is to err on the right side at any rate, and there were too much of that sort of zeal under this administration—New York World (Dem.).

ABOUT PEOPLE AND THINGS.
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He finally gave a written declaration acknowledging "the full obligation of the United States as regards full reparation for any violation of the treaty between the two countries which may have occurred," but he added that "no full examination of the case had been made and the law officers of the federal government had not arrived at any decision."

Secretary Gresham has done well. The Madrid officials ought not to have any difficulty in meeting so plain and vigorous a dispatch. They will have a keener appreciation of the proper emphasis to be attached to the phrases if several American cruisers were ordered to Cuba—New York Tribune (Rep.).

Even a little haste and some feeling for the persons who are the cause of their being manifested in defense of the country's honor and dignity. To err in that direction is to err on the right side at any rate, and there were too much of that sort of zeal under this administration—New York World (Dem.).

ABOUT PEOPLE AND THINGS.
The original of Little Billie, whom Du Maurier exploited in "Tribby," is supposed to be Frederick Walker, the young English artist, an account of whose life and works has recently been published.

Thomas Jefferson, it is said, spoke like a professor lecturing in his class. He used few gestures, and always delivered his lectures in a moderate tone of voice, with little appearance of interest or enthusiasm.

Charles Cockdock, the veteran actor, when present-day play goes remember best, William Gillette, who has just retired, and who was a fine actor of heroic roles, is about to retire to the "Forest Home" in New York.

When the Empress of Austria announces her intention of going for a walk her maids of honor tremble. She is an untiring pedestrian, and frequently walks twenty miles at a stretch, and this is at a pace equal to that of a man's.

Mademoiselle Pauline, a native of Holland, appears prepared to justify her claim to be the smartest woman on earth. She was born eighteen years ago, and caused much comment concerning her smallness. It is said that she is only four feet high.